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STATEMENT BY FCC COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN ON THE TV STUDY SOFTWARE PUBLIC NOTICE AND THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE INCENTIVE AUCTION RULES OPTION DISCUSSION

"The release of the TV Study Software Public Notice and the Supplement to the Incentive Auction Rules Option Discussion demonstrates the Commission's commitment to designing a framework which has the greatest potential of improving the broadcast TV and mobile wireless service industries. An important component of the proposed incentive auction is the repacking of broadcast TV stations, including the potential reassignment of stations to new operating channels. In order to preserve the integrity of the broadcast TV service on which the American consumers rely, we must get this process right. As the TV Study Public Notice points out, the software that the Commission staff currently uses to implement OET-69 is based on source code and data from the 1990s and earlier. It is critical that the repacking process incorporates the most updated and accurate data possible. Therefore, I commend the staff for not only developing new TV Study software, but for also seeking comment from parties who have gained valuable experience on the best ways to analyze service area coverage, population served, and interference received by broadcast television stations.

"The Supplement to the Incentive Auction Rules Option Discussion also provides important guidance on certain technical aspects of the forward auction. These include intra-round bidding, managing the shifting of demand between categories of licensees, and the forward auction closing rule. I encourage all broadcast TV licensees, and other parties who are interested in participating in either the reverse or forward auctions, to carefully review this supplement as well as the TV Study Software Public Notice. If parties need more information on these or other issues to determine whether they should participate in the voluntary incentive auction, I encourage them to let us know. Active engagement by all relevant parties will help the Commission design a voluntary incentive auction that best serves the public interest."